



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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INTERPRETIVE OPINION

Pursuant to §103-50, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), all buildings and facilities constructed by, or on behalf of the State or any county, shall conform to the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and amendments. In accordance to HRS §103-50 and Chapter 11-217, Hawaii Administrative Rules, the Disability and Communication Access Board has authority to issue interpretive opinions to HRS §103-50 design standards.

Docket: **DCAB 2004-01:** In new construction, are handrail extensions allowed to turn 90 degrees at the top and bottom of a ramp?

Summary: ADAAG 4.8.5(2) does not clearly state that handrails shall extend in a linear fashion. As with ACC#93-27.552, “The purpose of the 12 inch extension of handrails . . . is to provide a level area and steady gripping surface for a person with a disability to regain balance before continuing through the building or facility.”

Ruling: For buildings or facilities subject to HRS §103-50,

ADAAG 4.8.5(2)

In new construction, handrail extensions are not allowed to turn at the top and bottom ramps. The 12 inch handrail extension must be in a linear fashion.

[Rul:03/04] (Auth and Imp: HRS §103-50)

If you have any questions or comments regarding this ruling, please call 586-8121.

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